

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CPR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 861

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GE, BE, CGEN

SUBJECT: BELGIAN-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS

REF: BERLIN 5653

1. THE BELGIAN DCM HAS INFORMED US THAT THE FIRST ROUND OF NEGOTIATING A CONSULAR AGREEMENT WITH THE GDR HAS ENDED IN BRUSSELS, WITH A SECOND ROUND SCHEDULED IN EAST BERLIN IN OCTOBER.

2. THE EAST GERMANS SOUGHT TO INCLUDE A DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY IN THE DRAFT UNDER DISCUSSION BUT AGREED TO A BELGIAN PROPOSAL TO DEFINE THIS QUESTION AS A "TECHNICALITY" TO BE CONSIDERED AT A LATER TIME. THE DISCUSSIONS THEN ADDRESSED OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CONSULAR AGREEMENT WITH A VIEW TO OBTAINING AS MUCH COMMON GROUND AS POSSIBLE.

3. AT THE END OF THESE DISCUSSIONS EAST GERMAN NEGOTIATOR KLOBES PROPOSED A NEW FORMULATION OF THE DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY IN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE PALATABLE TO THE BELGIANS. THE BELGIAN EMBASSY HERE HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A REPORT
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ON THE NATURE OF THIS PROPOSAL.

4. THE BELGIAN DCM BELIEVES THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS
BEEN STRENGTHENED IN ITS RESOLVE TO AVOID INCLUSION
OF A DEFINITION OF NATIONALITY BECAUSE OF THE US
POSITION ON THIS POINT. HE IS OF THE OPINION, HOWEVER,
THAT IF AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED ON ALL OTHER ASPECTS OF A
CONSULAR CONVENTION THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL, IN
THE END, ACCEDE TO EAST GERMAN PRESSURE TO DEFINE NATIONALITY.COOPER

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